I HAVE SWORN TO PROTECT MY COUNTRY, BUT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING.
NEW SERIALIZATION! LEGENDARY FANTASY!
AFTER LOSING A LARGE PART OF MY COUNTRY'S TERRITORY, THINGS BECAME WORSE AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
IF I WAS REBORN, I'D WANT TO BE STRONG.
I WOULD STOP THE SUFFERING AND PREVENT SOLDIERS FROM DYING. I WOULD WANT TO BE A STRONG KING.
JUST LIKE MY ELDER BROTHER,
JUST LIKE HIM.

#1: Thus, his death ends.
Pereat peccatipleris, pulsate et aperietur vobis
THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT
Because of his transgressions,
He seeks his precious yet fleeting
end to his fight.
The Legendary Fantasy of the Purification of One's Soul!!

THIS PLACE IS...?
.....

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, DIDN'T I DIE?
TEARS?
WHAT IS THIS? I CAN'T GET IT OFF
CLING CLING
.....?
は、
WHY ARE MY HANDS ARE THIS SMALL!?
MY BODY IS OF A CHILD'S!?
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!?

ECSED
BÁTHOR
ERZSÉBÉT
0-1614
BÁTHORY ERZSÉBET? IS THAT A PERSON'S NAME?
THERE'S AN INSCRIPTION...
A LOT OF COFFINS...? WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS?
IS THIS PLACE A CEMETERY OR SOMETHING? WHY AM I HERE?
OVER HERE... NERO CLAUDIUS...? THAT'S THE NAME OF THE EMPEROR OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, RIGHT?
WH...WH...WHO THE HECK ARE YOU?! SNEAKING UP ON ME...
GYAA!?
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE AWAKEN, KING JOHN.

MY NAME IS GILLES DE RAIS.
I HAVE COME TO GIVE YOU YOUR ORDERS.
WHAT?
WHAT'S WITH HIS RUDE-NESS?
?
OUCH!

A KNIGHT... CONFERMENT CERTIFICATE...?
CHIVALRIC ORDER OF KNIGHTS OF TWILIGHT
A LETTER...?
KING JOHN, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...
HUH? THESE CHARACTERS ARE TOO UNIFORM.
EVEN WITH THE ENGLISH I KNOW, THIS LOOKS REALLY DIFFERENT...
SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE! WHAT DOES THIS CONFERMENT MEAN...?!
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANT TO REDO?

IF YOU WERE GIVEN YOUR LIFE BACK,
WOULD YOU WISH TO BECOME A WORTHY PERSON?
THERE ARE!
HAVE I BEEN BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE?! HAS GOD ANSWERED TO MY PRAYERS?!
THE THINGS THAT I WANT TO REDO, MY WISHES...

"THERE ARE!", HUH?
THERE-FORE...
AS ONE WHO IS DEAD IN THIS CURRENT WORLD OF THE 21ST CENTURY,
YOU WILL FIGHT AND OPEN UP YOU OWN PATH!
THIRD KING OF THE HOUSE OF PLANTAGENET OF ENGLAND,
JOHN.
.....?

WAIT, WAIT... RIGHT NOW, I THINK I HAVE A HEADACHE...
DID YOU SAY 21ST CENTURY?
YES, I DID.
ビクッ
!?
あ" あ" あ" あ あ"
THAT... THAT'S CRAZY! ONE WHO IS DEAD? WHAT THE HECK?!
AM I DEAD RIGHT NOW!? WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH FIGHTING?
HMM
WHAT IS THAT SHINING BOARD!?
HMM, LOOKS LIKE WE DON'T ANY SPARE TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS,
WE HAVE TO GET GOING NOW
EH, GOING? WHERE?

TO THE BATTLE-FIELD.
WHAT?
LOOK AROUND, KING JOHN, THOSE ARE THE ENEMIES WE FIGHT.
OH MY, THERE ARE A LOT OF THEM TODAY TOO
WE'RE OUT-SIDE?!

WHAT ARE THEY!!?
THEY ARE CALLED "DARK WRAITHS"*.
NORMAL PEOPLE ARE DEFENCELESS AGAINST THESE MONSTERS, WHETHER THEY LOOK AT THEM, OR GET HURT
THEY FEED ON PEOPLE'S SOULS

T/N: KANJI LITERALLY MEANS "DARK BEAST".

PEOPLE WHOSE SOULS ARE EATEN FALL ASLEEP.
BEFORE LONG, THEY GROW WEAKER AND WEAKER UNTIL DEATH COMES FOR THEM.
THEY DIE ?!
GLOW
HOW... HOW CAN YOU BE THIS CALM?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO!?
IN ORDER TO SAVE THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP,
WE HAVE TO ERADICATE THE SOUL-EATING WRAITHS

KING JOHN,
YOU MUST ACCEPT THE FACT THAT YOU MUST FIGHT!
!!
GROWL
A BOOK?! WHERE DID IT COME FROM?!
UWAAA!
GROOOWL

IN ORDER TO ERADICATE THESE MOSQUITO MONSTERS, WE, RESURRECTED THE DECEASED KNIGHT FROM THE ABYSS
WE ARE NO LONGER HUMAN...
WE WHOSE SOULS ARE CORRUPTED BY SIN, HAVE PREPARED WEAPONS TO FIGHT AGAINST DARK WRAITHS
COME FORTH!
THE GREAT SHREDDING POWER OF THE SOUL!
!?

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL EVIL MONSTERS!
THE FANGS OF GARGOUILLE ARE READY FOR ANYONE FOOLISH ENOUGH!
I, GILLES DE RAIS,
WILL NOT LET A SINGLE DEMON ESCAPE!
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ン..
WH...
WH..
ストン
うわあああ
TJk
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?! THAT BLACK ARM?!
あ
YOU'RE NOISY
HMPH, WEAK-LINGS...

UHM..
UGH .
ONCE THE DARK WRAITHS ARE DEFEATED, THE PEOPLE WHO ARE ASLEEP WILL SLOWLY START TO WAKE UP
...?
IS THAT SO ..?
THAT'S GREAT.
THE HUMAN WORLD IS CURRENTLY IN DANGER BECAUSE OF THESE DARK WRAITHS.
THE GOVERNMENTS SAY THAT THIS IS ALL CAUSED BY A MYSTERIOUS DISEASE BUT.

REMEMBER AND

FIGHT

WE ARE THE SO-CALLED WEAPONS TO FIGHT AGAINST THESE DARK WRAITHS
YOU SAW MY POWER, DIDN'T YOU? YOU HAVE THE SAME POWER, KING JOHN
THE POWER THAT IS ENGRAVED IN YOUR SOUL AND HEART

I HAVE POWER TO FIGHT, INSIDE ME...?
POWER... POWER INSIDE ME...?

---JOHN,
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS NO NEED FOR THE WEAK!
YOU ARE WEAK.
YOU'LL NEVER BECOME THE KING OF KNIGHTS OR A WISE KING!
WAIT, MOTHER, PLEASE DON'T GO! DON'T LEAVE ME!
BROTHER... MOTHER...
I WANT TO BECOME STRONG, JUST LIKE MY BROTHER
BECAUSE I'M WEAK, BECAUSE I'M POWERLESS, I'M SURELY GOING TO BE LEFT BEHIND.

KING JOHN COULD NEVER WIN ANY BATTLE, RIGHT?
EVEN THOUGH KING HENRY* AND KING RICHARD BOTH HAD FEATS OF VALOR TO THEIR NAMES
EVEN WHEN KING JOHN COPIED THE LATE KING RICHARD'S MILITARY TACTICS, HE IS STILL POWERLESS.
THIS COUNTRY DOESN'T NEED
A KING LIKE YOU.
IF I HAD POWER
WOULD I BECOME STRONG?

CAN I THROW AWAY MY WEAKNESS?
BECOMING A STRONG KING OF KNIGHTS,
BECOMING AS STRONG AS MY BROTHER!?
RESPOND, MY SOUL!
IN THE NAME OF THE GREAT PLANTAGENET!
POWER, RELEASE!
プスン

MY POWER...
HOW DO I RELEASE IT...?

HUH?

DEATH PENALTY!
OUCH!

...COULD IT BE THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT POWER? THE FACT THAT IT'S NOT ABOUT SAYING IT ALOUD...

ABSOLUTELY NOT!
NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL!

IF SHOUTING COULD RELEASE POWER, THEN WE WOULDN'T HAVE PROBLEMS! POWER COMES FROM MEMORIES AND SINS!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY SPECIALTIES LIKE SPECIAL WEAPONS OR TECHNIQUES?!
HUH? NONE?
REALLY?
WHY THE HELL WOULD YOU BE RESURRECTED IF YOU'RE SO USELESS?!
I WANT TO KNOW TOO!
DEATH SLAP!
...LET'S NOT LOSE OUR COOL HERE, SINCE WE'RE OUT OF OPTIONS,
LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE CASTLE.
CASTLE?

THE PLACE WHERE WE WOKE UP,
OUR FORTRESS
FIRST OF ALL, LET'S DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR APPEARANCE
OF COURSE, WE PROVIDE UNIFORMS HERE
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT
I CAN'T KEEP WEARING THIS
THIN LAYER OF CLOTH.

STOP COMPLAINING, THAT'S ALL WE HAVE
SO THIS IS CLOTHES FROM THE FUTURE... IT'S A BIT TOO FORMAL...
IT'S WEIRD
SO MEAN!
IF JACK HADN'T TOLD ME TO NOT BULLY YOU, YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN SO DEAD RIGHT NOW!
MMH?
WHO'S JACK?
OKAY, NOW FOLLOW ME
HUH? STOP IGNORING ME!
THAT ATTITUDE RIGHT THERE IS DEFINITELY "BULLYING"! CUT IT OUT!

OI OI, DID YOU JUST TALK BACK TO ME?
DO YOU KNOW THAT WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER FROM NOW ON?
THAT MEANS THAT...
IF YOU REALLY PISS ME OFF, WHO KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN?
MAYBE YOU'LL GET COVERED IN HONEY WHILE ANTS ARE RELEASED ALL OVER YOU?
OR MAYBE YOU'LL BE TIED UP FROM THE CEILING WITH SOME ROPE? OR MAYBE SOME CANDLE PUNISHMENT?
A TRIANGLE HORSE IS ALSO GOOD IDEA, DON'T YOU THINK SO? I DON'T DISLIKE BRANDING PEOPLE TOO, YOU KNOW?
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE BULLIED THAT MUCH? I DON'T REALLY MIND.

IF YOU UNDERSTAND, THEN SHUT UP AND FOLLOW ME.
SCARY!
THAT SMILING FACE IS REALLY CAPABLE OF ANYTHING!
ギィィ
IT GOT A LITTLE BIT BRIGHTER, HUH...?
1

WE TRAIN OUR POWERS HERE.
THIS GARDEN IS OUR PRACTICE GROUND,

THIS IS... A GARDEN? WHY DID WE COME TO A GARDEN?

EXACTLY.
IN OTHER WORDS... THE REASON WE CAME HERE IS TO...
TRAIN?

SPECIAL TRAINING!
I WILL ATTACK YOU UNTIL YOUR POWERS ARE RELEASED!
GOT IT?
WHAAAT !?
OK, LET'S BEGIN!
EH! AH!
EVEN IF YOU SAY "LET'S BEGIN",
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO RELEASE MY POWER...
IF YOU AREN'T ATTACKED, THE POWER WON'T BE RELEASED, RIGHT?
ERR...

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FOR NOW, I'LL JUST LOOK SERIOUS.!

I'M TRYING!
MY HEAD IS NOT A DRUM!
DO IT MORE SERIOUSLY.

!?
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AH, GILLES!?
SEEMS MY ATTACKS WERE TOO LENIENT!
NOW, KING JOHN, FIGHT BACK!
OTHER-WISE, YOU'LL END UP WITH MORE THAN JUST IN-JURIES!

IF YOU CAN'T RELEASE YOUR POWER BY THE END OF TODAY, I'LL TEAR OFF YOUR LIMBS!
!?
OR, I CAN TAKE YOUR FREEDOM AWAY. WON'T YOU BECOME MY SLAVE..?
SLAVE!?
HELL NO!
WAIT! WAIT, PLEASE WAIT!
IF THIS CONTINUES, I'LL REALLY...

I'LL XXXX AND XXXX YOUR VITAL PARTS AND MAKE YOU REGRET BEING BORN A MAN!
SOUNDS FUN, DOESN'T IT!!?
YOUR GOAL IS CHANGING, ISN'T IT!?
WAA!
SUPER SOUND SLEEPER
AH!
NO MATTER WHAT TIME IT IS, I CAN FALL ASLEEP IN 3 SECONDS; IS THIS MY POWER?!
POWER....MY POWER.....! WHAT THE HECK IS MY POWER?!
REMEMBER, DAMMIT! MY SPECIAL TECHNIQUE!

SQUEEZE
WAH!
べしゃあ

WHO IN THE WORLD PRIDES ONESELF ON FALLING ASLEEP? HMM?
EEK!

!?
!?
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がつーん
OUCH!

IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, I'LL TURN YOUR SKIN INTO MY NEW BOOK COVERS!
STOP THROWING THREATS ONE AFTER ANOTHER!
OUCH! OWW!
ARE YOU OK WITH BECOMING A SLAVE?! DO IT PROPERLY!
EVEN I'M
TRYING MY BEST!
JUST BECAUSE HE CAN USE HIS POWER, MY HEAD KEEPS GETTING HIT!
DAMN... I'VE BEEN DOING THINGS HIS WAY SINCE THE START
EVEN I...
OH?! HE'S BEING REALLY SERIOUS NOW?

OH...
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.....
OH, CRAP! I ACCIDENTALLY USED PHYSICAL FORCE!
IN THE END, MY POWER STILL HASN'T COME OUT!
.....
LOOKS LIKE YOUR FIGHTING SPIRIT HAS FINALLY APPEARED, HASN'T IT, KING JOHN...
ALRIGHT... BEFORE YOU LOSE THAT SPIRIT.
IF WE CAN LIGHT A FIRE TO THAT FIGHTING SPIRIT WITH THE INTENTION OF DEFEATING ME, YOUR POWER WILL DEFINITELY AWAKEN!
!!

UWAAA, HERE I COME!
NOW, USE YOUR FISTS AND ATTACK ME
TO BE FAIR, I'LL FIGHT BARE-HANDED
ボカ
ボカ
WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING FOR AN HOUR NOW, HAVEN'T WE...
WHAT ARE WE DOING WRONG?
HAA...
GILLES... HE USES A LOT OF ABUSIVE LANGUAGE BUT, SOMEHOW, HE'S GOOD COMPANY...

IT'S FOR MY OWN SAKE.
ACTUALLY, I'M NOT DOING THIS FOR YOU.
...WHY... ARE YOU HANGING OUT WITH ME? IF YOU WERE TO GIVE UP ON ME RIGHT NOW,
IT WOULDN'T TROUBLE YOU AT ALL, RIGHT?
IF WE MANAGE TO EXTERMINATE THE DARK WRAITHS, ALL OUR SINS WILL BE WIPED CLEAN AND OUR SOULS WILL BE PURIFIED,
THEN WE CAN RECEIVE NEW LIVES ONCE AGAIN

ALSO, IT IS SAID THAT WE CAN MEET OUR LOVED ONES ONCE MORE.
ABSURD TALK, ISN'T IT?
THAT'S WHY, KING JOHN,
YOU TOO MUST ACCEPT THE BURDEN OF THIS POWER TOO
PEOPLE WE WANT TO MEET, A NEW LIFE,
A DESIRE WE WANT TO REDO.
I...

JOHN THE LACKLAND,
THAT IS WHAT I WAS KNOWN AS.
THE WORST KING IN HISTORY
I COULD NOT RISE UP TO ANYONE'S EXPECTATIONS AND I WAS ABANDONED BY MY PEOPLE
THE UNLOVED, THE BIGGEST FOOL.
DESERTION,
LOSS OF TERRITORY, TYRANNICAL RULE,
THE ME WHO DID NOT HAVE THE ABILITY OF A KING COULD NOT PROTECT THE PEACE OF MY OWN COUNTRY.
I WASN'T ABLE TO BECOME STRONG, UNLIKE MY BROTHER AND HIS PEERS,
SO DIFFERENT FROM MY BROTHER, KING RICHARD THE LIONHEART

IN THE END, I BECAME A NOBODY,
THAT'S WHO I AM.
MY PRAYER TO BECOME SOMEONE LIKE MY BROTHER NEVER CAME TRUE.
THAT'S WHY, EVEN WHEN I'M ABANDONED OR THROWN AWAY, I...
THAT'S ME.
POWER-LESS AND WEAK,
!?
LET ME SAY THIS, KING JOHN
THERE'S NO TIME TO FEEL DOWN.
PINCH

THOUGHTS SUCH AS "BEING ABANDONED" AND SERVILITY ARE SAID TO BE THE MOST UNPLEASANT
ISN'T IT BECAUSE YOUR SOUL ISN'T RESPONDING TO YOU?
OR IS IT THAT YOU DIDN'T OPEN YOUR HEART TO YOURSELF?

POWER IS SOMETHING THAT COMES FROM WITHIN,
IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S COAXED OUT AND GRASPED FROM INSIDE YOU
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER IT'S MARTIAL ARTS OR TECHNICAL SKILLS,
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, YOU WON'T BEFRIEND THAT POWER

BE...LIEVE...? IN MYSELF ..?
AM I SHUTTING OUT MY OWN HE...RT?
I HATED THE WEAK ME WHILE I ADMIRED MY STRONG BROTHER...

DON'T TIRE YOURSELF BY WORRYING! STOP GRUMBLING ABOUT TRIVIAL THINGS!
PINCH
ARGH! WHY ARE YOU SITTING THERE LOOKING SO WORRIED!
NO ONE CAN CHALLENGE YOU
IF YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF FROM DEEP WITHIN YOUR HEART,
IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE PERSON
SOMETHING LIKE POWER, EVERYONE POSSESSES IT
BELIEVE,
GRASPING...
OPENING MY OWN HEART,
えい

"THROWING AWAY THE WEAK ME", "IF I HAD POWER", I SHOULDN'T BE THINKING LIKE THAT...
THE POWER TO FIGHT HAS ALWAYS BEEN INSIDE ME...?
THIS IS...!
COULD IT BE MY POWER...? PLEASE, ANSWER ME!

ポン
……？
ザッ
WHAT'S WITH THAT SEEDY-LOOKING THING... A FRUIT KNIFE?
...SO SMALL.

THIS IS MY BLADE,
THIS IS MY POWER'S ANSWER TO MY CALL.
...EVEN THOUGH IT'S SMALL,
I WAS LOOKING AT IT FROM THE START, YOU KNOW
LOOK AT ME, GILLES! THIS IS MY WEAPON!
ALL THANKS TO YOU, GILLES!
THANK YOU!
ANYWAY, THIS IS MY POWER! MY POWER GOT RELEASED!
ピョン
ピョン

……
かわいい
EVEN THOUGH I WAS JUST THOROUGHLY ABUSING AND THREATENING HIM…
WHAT A SIMPLE-MINDED PERSON…
CAN I SEE IT FOR A MOMENT?
SURE.
ニヤ
SMALL AND FEELS INCOMPLETE BUT…
IF HE TRAINS MORE, THERE MAY BE ROOM FOR GROWTH…?
!?

わぁぁぁぁぁぁ
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!!
GILLES, YOU BROKE IT!!!
AHHHHHH, IT WENT LIMP!!!!

!?

RIGHT NOW OTHER THAN US, THERE AREN'T ANY SUPPORT PERSONNEL AROUND.
THE INTRUDER ALARM.
BEEP.
WHAT WAS THAT SOUND?!

COME ON, BE FIXED!
IT'S OK, I CAN DO THIS! IT'S ALRIGHT!
AH!
STRAIGHTEN
IT RE-TURNED TO NORMAL!?
IT'S FIXED!
IT'S FIXED, BUT...
...YUP
A GROWING ANXIETY AND AN UNRELIABLE BLADE
SO
INSECURE
TO BE CONTINUED.

THE ALARMS HAVE SOUNDED, THE ENEMY APPROACHES!
THE ALARM FOR THE ENEMY'S APPEAR-ANCE..!
WE'LL DEAL WITH THAT KNIFE LATER, WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT NOW
PLUS, WE'RE THE ONLY ONES AVAILABLE TO RESPOND

Guiseppe et Repetto Hobbs
Reitei Accidents
THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT.
#2: A Prayer, A Wish, A Scream
REINCARNATION
LET'S HEAD TO BATTLE,
WE CANNOT ALLOW THE POWER OF THE ENEMY TO GROW
STEEL YOUR RESOLVE.

THEY KEEP COMING...!
THERE ARE MORE OF THEM THAN BEFORE!
GLOW
NO MATTER HOW MANY COME,

I'LL ANNIHI-LATE THEM ALL!
GAAH!
WAH!
WAH!

HE DEFEATED ALL OF THEM WITH A SINGLE ATTACK.
HIS "POWER" ISN'T INCOMPLETE IN ANY WAY, HE'S ABLE TO PERFECTLY GRASP IT..!
HE'S REALLY AMAZING...

HEY, IT WAS YOU WHO DREW THEM HERE!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU STANDING AROUND FOR?! DON'T BE LAZY!
LOOKS SCARY, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T HURT ME...
IT'S AMAZING BUT... THE BLACK FLAMES HE PRODUCES
IT'S NOT HOT BUT
THERE'S MORE OF THEM THAN I THOUGHT... THEY'RE FILLING UP THIS PART OF THE STREET.
GROWL
GROWL
GROWL
KING JOHN!
AH...

EVEN I HAVE TO FIGHT...!
EVEN I HAVE POWER
GROWL

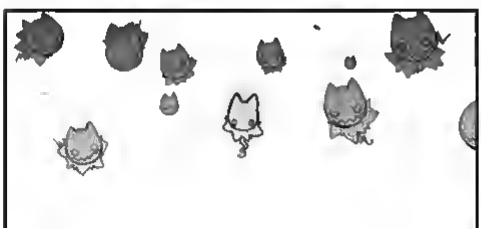
AS EXPECTED, THIS IS SCARY...
BUT...
I WANT TO BECOME STRONG...
I WANT TO BE USEFUL BY USING MY OWN POWER...!
UWAAA
AAAAH!

GRR...
!?
!

GILLES...!
JUST NOW... DID I DEFEAT A DARK WRAITH?
!
...HMPH
EVEN A SMALL BIRD HAS A DETERMINATION TO FLY, RIGHT..
BUT JUST DEFEATING ONE OF THEM ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH, YOU KNOW?
...!
LIMP
UWAAAH!
RIGHT WHEN I COMPLIMENT YOU, YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN! FOCUS!

GOOD GRIEF .!
AS EXPECTED, A SMALL BIRD IS STILL A SMALL BIRD...

!



STRANGE... THE DARK WRAITHS AREN'T ATTACKING US ANYMORE.
HUH?

GILLES! THAT WRAITH IS SUSPICIOUS!
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN SOME-THING LIKE THAT AS WELL, BE CAREF...
...WHAT'S WITH THAT ONE?
IT DOESN'T HAVE A MOUTH, SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT ABOUT IT...?

!?

WHAT IS THIS...!?
MY HEAD...! MY HEAD IS SPLIT-TING...!
UGH...?!

WHAT IS IT DOING...!?
THIS WRAITH...
...!?

BROTHER ...?
WHAT IS THIS... WHY AM I REMEMBERING THIS NOW...?
UGH... YOU...
DISAP-PEAR, YOU INSOLENT CUR!!

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN TOGETHER!
!!
THE STREET IS...?!
KYA HA
HA
HA
HA

GILLES !
I DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS HAPPEN BEFORE.
THIS PLACE IS...?
IS THIS THE DARK WRATH'S DOING!?
WHAT IS THIS...?
WHA. !

A VAST PLAIN.. SMOKE SIGNALS...
FORT BANNERS.. AND ARE THOSE KNIGHTS WEARING CHAINMAIL..?
THIS CAN'T BE
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS PLACE..?
ズ ズ ズ ズ
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR WHAT WE'RE SEEING TO BE REAL.
THERE'S NO WAY THAT WE'RE IN THE PAST...! WHICH MEANS THAT...!
.....!
THERE'S A PATTERN IN THE SKY..!?

I DID IT! I DID IT!
YOU FINALLY ARRIVED.
THEIR MEMORIES ARE ALL MINE!
THEIR MEMORIES, ALL OF THEM, MINE!
!!
DARK WRAITH!!

YOU CAN'T RETURN TO YOUR OWN WORLD!
YOU GUYS CAN'T GO BACK NOW.
THIS WORLD ALREADY BELONGS TO ME!

THESE SURROUNDINGS ARE PROBABLY SOME SORT OF BARRIER THAT IT MADE.
THAT THING DEFINITELY DID SOMETHING!

PLEASE WAIT....
THAT IS...

AS LONG AS WE DEFEAT IT, THEN..
THAT DARK WRAITH IS DEFINITELY SOME SORT OF MAGICIAN.

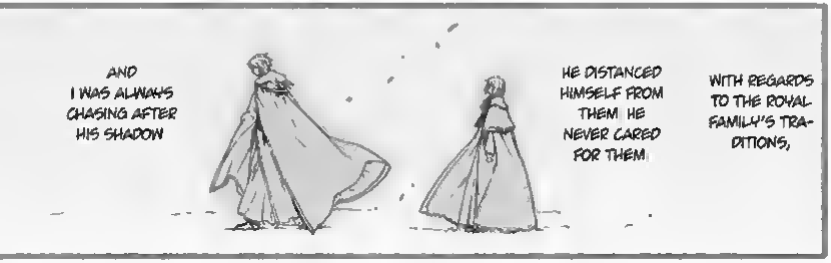
WHA-!?
WAI...WAIT, GILLES!
は
はっ!

RICHARD...
NIISAMA

MY BROTHER...
. RICHARD-NIISAMA IS HERE....
WHY .
KING JOHN!? WHY DID YOU STOP ME!?
YOUR BROTHER?
THAT IS WHY YOU...
I ALWAYS SAID THAT NUISANCES SHOULD BE DISPOSED OF!
YOU GUYS ARE A NUI-SANCE!
WILL DIE HERE!

!!!
!!!
OOOOOOOHHHHHHHHHHH
UOOOHHHH!

TSK!
YOU MON STERS!!
WHY?
WHY IS MY ENEMY MY BROTHER...?
KING JOHN?!


AND I WAS ALWAYS CHASING AFTER HIS SHADOW
HE DISTANCED HIMSELF FROM THEM. HE NEVER CARED FOR THEM.
WITH REGARDS TO THE ROYAL FAMILY'S TRADITIONS,

I WANTED TO BE... SOMEONE LIKE THAT...

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, KING JOHN!
THIS PLACE IS A FABRICATION OF THE PAST CREATED BY THE DARK WRAITHS! IT'S A FAKE!
THIS IS ALL THAT DARK WRAITH'S DOING! IF WE CAN KILL IT...!
IF THIS SCENE IS A DECEPTION,
THEN THOSE KNIGHTS, AND YOUR BROTHER, ALL OF THEM ARE FAKES!
YEAH.. THEY ARE DEFINITELY..
ALL THE ENEMY'S ILLUSIONS..
I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT..
BUT..
MY HEART CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

FOR US TO KILL THE DARK WRAITH, WE HAVE TO OVERCOME MY BROTHER, RIGHT?
WE HAVE TO DEFEAT HIM, RIGHT...?
THAT PERSON IS MY ASPI-RATION.
HE IS THE PERSON I YEARNED TO BE LIKE ONE DAY. TO BE AS STRONG AS HIM...
EVEN IF HE ISN'T THE REAL THING. I CAN'T POINT MY BLADE AT HIM...!
!

!!
MY BLADE ...!
KYAH KYAH KYAH!
LOOK AT YOU, BEING FLUSTERED! SO FUN!
MY "HEART" BROKE...?
LET'S PLAY TOGETHER, YOUR MAJESTY!
LET'S PLAY MORE AND MORE!

LET'S PLAY...
A LOOOT!!
!!
HE'S COMING..!

GET DOWN, KING JOHN!
WE HAVE TO STAND OUR GROUND RIGHT HERE!!

GILLES'S ABILITY WAS...
!?
DISPELLED...?!
I'M NOT DONE YET!

SO FAST
...!?

I NEED TO RELEASE
MY POWER.
I NEED TO DEFEND .
AGAINST THIS SWORD ATTACK.
I HAVE TO PROTECT-
NO.
I WON'T MAKE IT.

GILLES..
GILLES...!
HANG IN THERE, GILLES!
WHAT SHOULD I DO, THIS IS MY FAULT!
I WAS SCARED STIFF...!

BORING... BORING...
WHAT IS THIS? SO WEAK...
ACK...!?
GIVING UP? HMM? HMM?

ACK... KA...!
NII-SAMA ...!
YOU ARE "JOHN THE LACKLAND", THE INCOMPETENT KING!
YOU GUYS ARE TRULY USELESS TO EVERYONE!

ACK
HATED! USELESS!
EVERYONE DECIDED THAT THEY NO LONGER NEEDED YOU!
YOU MADE A MESS OF YOUR COUNTRY.
!!
YOU SHOULD JUST DIE!
THAT'S WHY, IN THIS PLACE,
THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS NO NEED FOR THE WEAK!
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
YOU'LL NEVER BECOME THE KING OF KNIGHTS OR A WISE KING
JOHN, YOU'RE WEAK

WAS MY WISH TOO BIG...?
EVEN WHEN I'M GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE AT LIVING,
EVEN WHEN I TRY SO HARD TO BE STRONG,
IN THE END, I'M STILL WEAK.
A USELESS PERSON, NIISAMA?
AM I
SOMEONE LIKE ME... JUST...
STOP YOUR INCESSANT BABBLE, MONSTER!

!!
...!
USELESS, YOU SAID— GO DIE— YOU SAID..?
IS THERE A REASON WHY YOU BASTARDS KEEP JABBERING ON ABOUT THESE THINGS?

YOU ARE MONSTERS WHO ARE TRYING TO DESTROY THE WORLD! YOU HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO JUDGE US!!
DO YOU BAS-TARDS THINK WE'LL SIMPLY SURRENDER IN THIS KIND OF PLACE?

TO SIMPLY WATCH YOU GIVE YOURSELF UP WITHOUT A FIGHT!
I DID NOT COME HERE. . .
YOU ARE YOU, KING JOHN!
I SAID IT BEFORE!! BELIEVE IN YOURSELF!! BELIEVE IN YOUR SOUL!!
IT'S ALL UP TO YOU!!
BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN POWER!!!
. . . . !

I...
I DON'T WANT TO GIVE IN!!
I'M NOT GIVING UP!
*T/N: KANJI TRANSLATES TO "I WANT TO MEET THAT PERSON!!".
I WANT MY WISH TO COME TRUE*!!
SO, PLEASE,
JOHN!**
**T/N: KANJI TRANSLATES TO "FIGHT TOGETHER WITH ME!!".

WISH? DESPITE BEING A NUISANCE, DESPITE BEING WEAK, DESPITE BEING DEAD!!
I'LL CRUSH
THOSE WISHES OF YOURS!!
NOT GIVING UP, NOT GIVING IN...
GILLES, WHO TOLD YOU TO BELIEVE IN YOURSELF,
IS NOT GIVING UP.
EVEN WHEN GILLES ISN'T?
ARE YOU SURRENDERING, JOHN?

I WANT TO BELIEVE IN MY POWER..!

I... I... WANT TO BELIEVE IN MYSELF.

I DON'T WANT TO BETRAY GILLES' HEARTFELT WISH.

I WANT TO RECIPROCATE THOSE WORDS.

I WANT TO BE STRONG!!

JOHN...
I HAVE TO BELIEVE IN MY POWER AND THE PATH I MAKE FOR MYSELF!
I SHOULDN'T BE SIMPLY FOLLOWING IN SOMEONE'S FOOTSTEPS
JOHN!
I AM THE THIRD GENERATION OF THE HOUSE OF PLANTAGENET, KING OF ENGLAND.
BUT NOW I KNOW THAT THAT'S WRONG!!
I REALLY AM AN IDIOT!!
I HATED MYSELF! I DETESTED MY WEAKNESS!
THAT'S WHY I WAS ALWAYS CHASING THE SHADOW OF MY HERO!

THIS IS JOHN'S REAL POWER...!
I WILL MOVE FORWARD! I WILL SURPASS YOU!!
TO BE ABLE TO LIVE ONCE AGAIN!!

AT LAST, YOU BECAME STRONG
JOHN, MY LITTLE BROTHER..

JOHN, YOU'RE STILL WEAK.
DON'T FOLLOW ME!
THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS NO NEED FOR THE WEAK!
THE ROYAL FAMILY MUST BE ALWAYS STRONG,
THE COMMON FOLK'S HEROES.
THEY CONVENIENTLY EXPECT THINGS FROM A KING, AND THEIR FEELINGS CAN TURN FROM LOVE TO HATE IN A HEARTBEAT.
THAT'S WHY A KING MUST BE STRONG.
IN TIME, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND THESE WORDS.
YOU'RE STILL A CHILD.
WHEN YOU BECOME STRONG.
SOMEDAY...
SOMEDAY....

...BROTHER...
SUCH AN IMPORTANT THING...?
HOW COULD I FORGET...
KNIGHTS! I STILL HAVE KNIGHTS!!
IMP...
IMPOS-SIBLE... THIS CAN'T BE!!

ANSWER!!
MY SOUL!!
IN THE NAME OF LACK-LAND
POWER, RELEASE!!
ガラ
ガラ

!?
DISAP-
PEARING...
MY WORLD
IS DISAP-
PEAR-
ING...!?
THE WORLD IS
RUPTURING?
MY POWER
IS DISSI-
PATING!!
NOOO!
EVERY-
THING'S
DISINTE-
GRATING!!

I'VE NULLIFIED YOUR ABILITY, YOU SCUM!
YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ANYMORE!

WE'VE RETURNED TO THE ORIGINAL WORLD...!
THIS IS JOHN'S...!

YOU'VE BEEN HAVING A BIT TOO MUCH FUN, HAVEN'T YOU...

GUH... GEH... I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE CONSE-QUENCES!

THIS FORM,
IT'S THE TRUE FORM OF MY POWER...
THIS IS...
は、
ばっ
GILLES!!
ARE YOU OKAY, GILLES!?
YOU SUDDENLY GOT NOISY...
MY INJURIES ARE VIBRATING.
BUT YOU GOT SLASHED. THERE'S A LOT OF BLOOD! YOU'LL DIE!!
SHUT UP FOR A SECOND, STUPID KING.
OUR FLESH AND BLOOD HAS LONG SINCE PERISHED.. WE'RE WALKING CORPSES, YOU KNOW..

UNLESS I'M CHOPPED INTO PIECES... I WON'T STOP FUNCTIONING.
IF WE GET BACK TO THE CASTLE QUICKLY...
MY WOUNDS... CAN HEAL...
ぱた
.....

THIS TIME I'LL GIVE YOU MY THANKS,
JOHN.

LET'S HEAD BACK TO THE FORTRESS,
OUR HOME...

YOU LOOK DEPRESSED... I'LL THROW YOU OUT THE WINDOW.
WELL...
I WANT TO BECOME STRONGER,
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO USE MY POWER MORE SKILFULLY.
THAT TIME, I WAS DISTRACTED AND I STILL DON'T HAVE ANY REAL CONTROL...
IT'S MY FAULT THAT YOU GOT INJURED TO THAT EXTENT, GILLES

CAN YOU TRAIN ME?
SO THAT WE CAN WATCH EACH OTHER'S BACKS?
WE CAN FULFIL OUR WISHES TOGETHER ...!

WHO DO YOU THINK AM I? BEFORE ASKING SUCH A THING, YOU REALLY SHOULD ASCERTAIN WHO YOU'RE ASKING...
YOU'RE TOO EASY-GOING.

GILLES!!!!
HUH?

I'M BACK!!
GILLES !!
UWAA !?
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ン
WHAT THE... WHO..?!

...WHO ARE YOU?
HUH? YOU'RE NOT GILLES...
CHING
?
THE OTHERS INHABITANTS OF THE CASTLE...?!
...WHO ARE THESE GUYS!?
TO BE CONTINUED.

EHH? YOU'RE NOT GILLES...
...JACK.
WHO ARE YOU...?
WASN'T THERE ONLY TWO PEOPLE LIVING IN THE CASTLE...?
...JACK?

Not Two, but Four People...!?
#3: The Undead of the Twilight Castle
Helma
THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT
Petite tetraccipietis, pulsate et aperietur vobis

ONII-SAN, ARE YOU THE NEW PERSON?
MY NAME'S JACK! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
THEN, IS THIS CHILD...?
DIDN'T GILLES MENTION JACK'S NAME BEFORE?
IF JACK HADN'T TOLD ME TO NOT BULLY YOU...
もみ
もみ
...IS HE A BOY? OR A GIRL...?
ME? MY NAME'S JOHN...
JOHN!! NICE TO MEET YOU!!
LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER!
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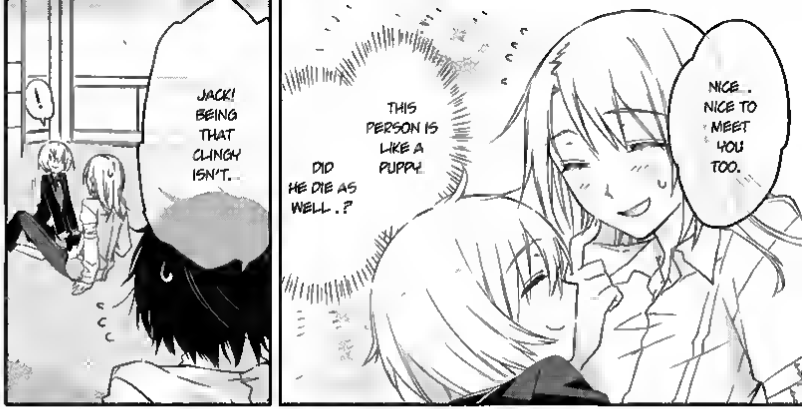
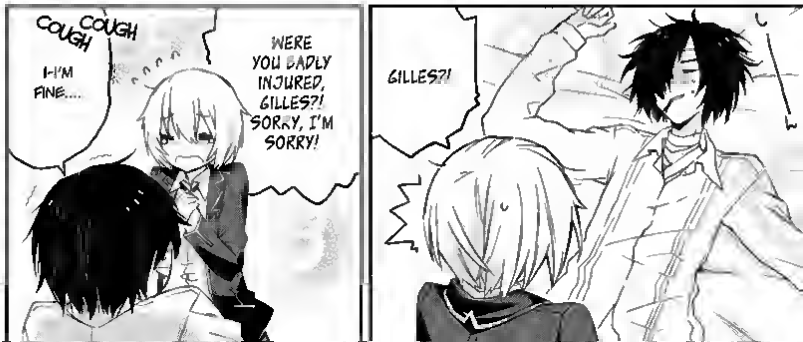
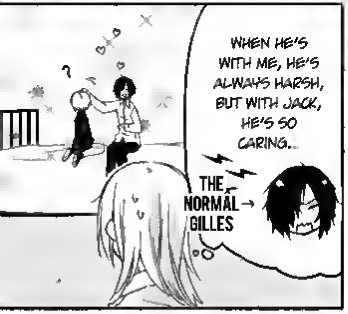

JACK! BEING THAT CLINGY ISN'T..
!
DID HE DIE AS WELL..?
THIS PERSON IS LIKE A PUPPY.
NICE. NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.

どかーーん
OOF!!!
GILLES, I'M BACK!!!

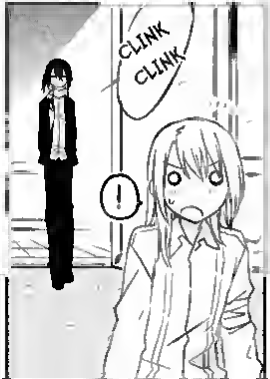

COUGH COUGH
I-I'M FINE....
WERE YOU BADLY INJURED, GILLES?! SORRY, I'M SORRY!
GILLES?!

GILLES, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I DON'T GET IT...
SINCE I'M A DEAD PERSON, I WAS TESTING MY LOVE AND MY SOUL...
THIS IS JUST A TEST, JACK...
COUGH


WHEN HE'S WITH ME, HE'S ALWAYS HARSH, BUT WITH JACK, HE'S SO CARING...
THE NORMAL GILLES

!?
DID GILLES'S PERSONALITY DO A BACK-FLIP...?!
...?
BUT SINCE YOU'RE HERE NOW, IT'S LIKE I DON'T HAVE ANY PAIN ANYMORE

AHH, THERE WAS ANOTHER PERSON HERE...
I APOLOGIZE FOR NOT GIVING MY NAME SOONER


CLINK CLINK
!

MY NAME IS KAWAKAMI GENSAI
I AM AN UNDEAD, RESURRECTED JUST LIKE YOU.
PLEASED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE

YOU'RE THE SAME AS GILLES-DONO, ARE YOU A NOBLE FROM THE WEST TOO?
A MYSTERIOUS NAME AND BLACK IRISES...
DID HE COME FROM A FARAWAY COUNTRY...?

KAWAKAMI GENSAI
PLEASED TO MEET YOU... EH... KAWA...
MY NAME IS JOHN AND I COME FROM ENGLAND
KAWAKAMI GENSAI
KAWA...KAK...MI...SAI...
KA...MIN...SAI GE...N...?
I'M SUCH A BAD PERSON ...!
I CAN'T PRONOUNCE IT PROPERLY
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I KNOW MY NAME IS DIFFICULT FOR WESTERNERS TO PRONOUNCE.
AFTER ALL, IT IS THE LANGUAGE OF A COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN...

JAPAN...?
JACK JUST CALLS ME KAMII...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND EN-GE-LISH THAT WELL EITHER, SO WE'RE BOTH IN THE SAME BOAT...
HE'S REALLY FROM A DIFFERENT COUNTRY.

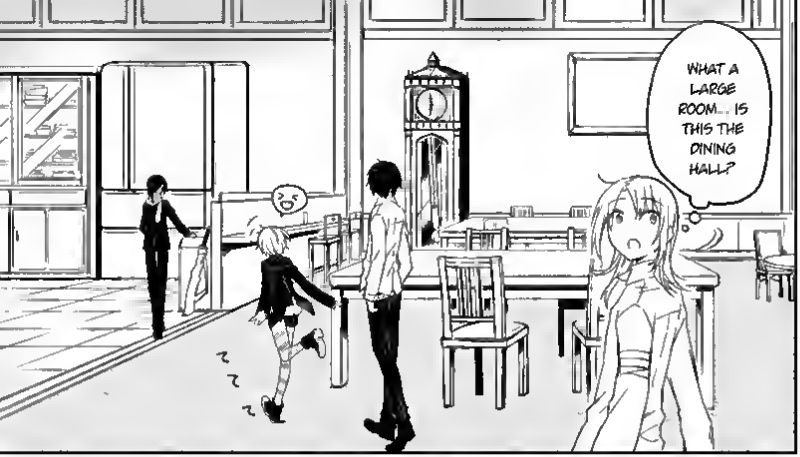
HE LOOKS LIKE THE CALM AND GENTLE TYPE...
BUT HE LOOKS AS SHARP AS A BLADE AS WELL...
HE SEEMS TO HAVE A FIGHTING AURA THAT'S DIFFERENT FROM A KNIGHT...

SFX: STOMACH RUMBLING

SFX: STOMACH CONTINUES RUMBLING

LET'S HAVE A MEAL.
WE CAN'T FIGHT ON EMPTY STOMACHS, RIGHT?

TSK
HOO...
IT CAN'T BE HELPED... LET'S ALL HEAD TO THE KITCHEN THEN...
A MEAL! LET'S ALL COOK A MEAL TOGETHER!



T/N: NIKUJAGA MEANS MEAT AND POTATO STEW.

YES IT IS!! VERY DELI-CIOUS!!
OH!
ERM, IS NIKUJAGA DELICIOUS...?
PULLS UP SLEEVE
ばーん
THAT'S WHY I'LL DO MY BEST AS WELL!
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CATCH
!?
HMM
?
!
YOU SLICED ALL OF IT SO QUICKLY!
THAT WAS AMAZ-ING, JACK!

CLANG

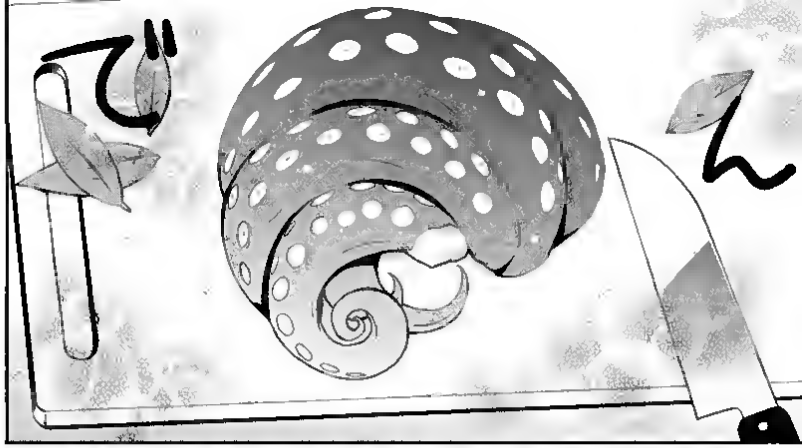
WOAH!
CLICK CLICK
WHOSH

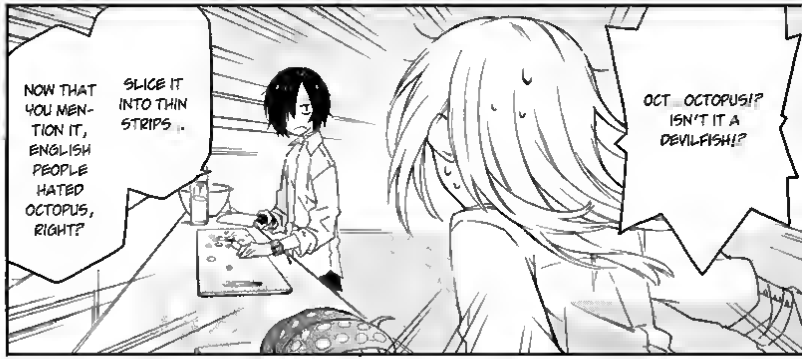
!!?
A FIRE JUST LIT UP!? YOU CAN LIGHT A FIRE WITH THIS?!
CALM DOWN.

THIS IS AMAZING... I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO...

GILLES-DONO, CAN YOU PREPARE THE PICKLED VEG-ETABLES?

HMM
!
TWO PAIRS OF HANDS ARE BETTER THAN ONE, RIGHT?
I WANT TO HELP WITH ANYTHING!
HA!?
HEY, HEY! LET ME HELP!
HMM
...FINE... COME AND HELP...
HE'S NOISY AND TROUBLE-SOME
...
I'VE NEVER COOKED BEFORE THOUGH, BUT I SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT WITH CUTTING THINGS!




OCT...OCTOPUS!? ISN'T IT A DEVILFISH!?
SLICE IT INTO THIN STRIPS.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, ENGLISH PEOPLE HATED OCTOPUS, RIGHT?

JUST CUT IT...
THIS DAMN MOLLUSK... I JUST HAVE TO CUT IT,
TREMBLE

YOU INSISTED THAT YOU WANTED TO HELP
I WON'T LET YOU OFF JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE SCARED OF OCTOPUS.

SLAP
ヤダ
RIGHT AFTER I LEAVE THINGS TO YOU, THIS IS WHAT I GET?! DON'T PLAY AROUND!
I'M NOT! I'M NOT!!
ギャー
ギャー
?
WHY ARE THEY SO NOISY..
WHA! I'M SORRY, GILLES!
……
BAM
SLAM
べち。
べち。
THIS IS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT..

キンッ
ARE YOU PRACTICING YOUR ABILITY OR SOMETHING!!?
WAH! WAIT, GILLES! I'M HOLDING A KNIFE! IT'S DANGEROUS!
……
HEY, BOTH OF YOU…!
BOTH…
SORRY
…I'M SORRY
STOP FIGHTING.

IT WAS YOUR FAULT YOURS...
HA. I WAS SO SCARED...
MORE SLOWLY...
SO THAT IT WON'T GO FLYING...
OH, OK
YUP.
IT'S BETTER TO GO SLOWLY WHEN CUTTING
I'M NOT DONE YET...
OUCH.
CUT

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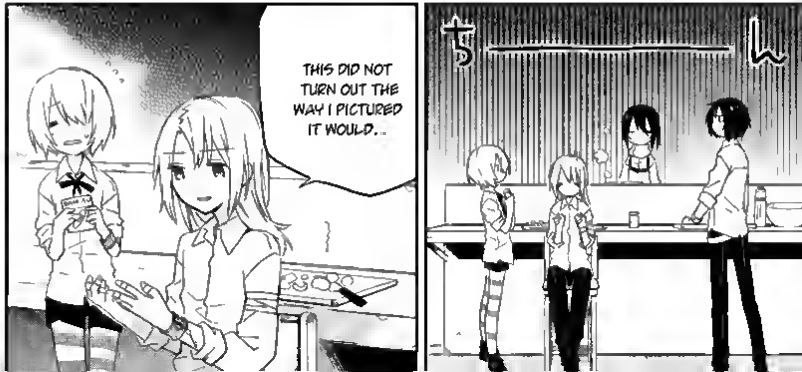
THIS DID NOT TURN OUT THE WAY I PICTURED IT WOULD..
ちーーーーーーーーん

I'M SO USELESS...
WELL, EVERYONE HAS TIMES LIKE THIS! IT CAN'T BE HELPED!
GAH!
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE PLAYING AROUND OUTSIDE YOUR AGE.
EVERYONE HAS THEIR FIRST TIMES
YOU'LL GET USED TO IT WITH TIME.
YOU'RE SO NICE... THANKS...
I THINK IT'S BETTER TO JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE.
YOU REALLY ARE NOT A NICE PERSON...
WHAT A NICE SMELL...

HMM... A JOB FOR SOMEONE WITH INJURED FINGERS...

I WONDER, IF THERE'S ANYTHING THAT SOMEONE LIKE ME CAN DO...

...I GOT IT!

JOHN
LET'S MAKE SANDWICHES!

I'LL HANDLE THE CUTTING OF THINGS LIKE VEGETABLES AND HAM, SINCE CUTTING IS MY SPECIALTY!
AND THEN, YOU CAN HANDLE THE BREAD...
LET MAKE THEM TOGETHER!
WHA.
JACK!
HAHA, HAVING A MIX OF EASTERN AND WESTERN FOOD IS GOOD ONCE IN A WHILE.
!?
IT'S TIME TO GET THE STEW READY, ISN'T IT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THANKS! LEAVE IT TO ME!

キャッ
キャッ

WE HAVE THESE!
ちゃっ
OH... IT COLLAPSED...
ぐちゃ...
WOW!
NOW, THEY WON'T COLLAPSE!
SEE!
. DO YOU WANT TO JOIN THEM?
NO WAY!
OKAY, LET'S GET IT DONE!
ぎゅ
ぎゅ
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!!

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HELPED MAKE A MEAL.

WOW, I'M STARVING!
IT'S DONE!

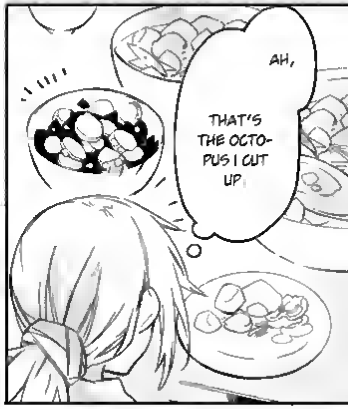
Thank you our father for food
Amen
ITADAKIMASU

はぐ
じーん
IT'S SO GOOD THAT YOU'RE CRYING?
IT'S GOOD~~~~ EVEN THOUGH I JUST ASSEMBLED THE SANDWICHES...
ぱくぱく
SO THIS IS NIKUJAGA!
THE POTATOES ARE SO DELICIOUS!
IT'S MY FAVORITE!

I'M HAPPY THAT HE'S PRAISING THE FOOD.
HE'S ALWAYS EXAGGERATING, YOU KNOW.

JOHN-DONO LOOKS HAPPY EATING, DOESN'T HE?

IT'S SO NICELY DISHED UP.


AH,
THAT'S THE OCTOPUS I CUT UP.

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DEVILFISH

PLEASE DON'T SAY UNNECESSARY THINGS!
GILLES-DONO UNWILLINGLY PLATED THAT DISH.

...HMM?
IF OCTOPUS WAS LIKE THIS, I NEEDN'T BE SCARED!
IT'S DELICIOUS! IT TASTES SWEET AND SOUR!
BEING AROUND A DINING TABLE LIKE THIS...
THIS IS NICE
WHEN I WAS ALIVE, MEALS WERE...
EVEN WHEN I WAS FULL, THERE WAS SOMETHING MISSING...

BUT NOW
IT'S WARM
IT'S A FEELING OF CONTENTMENT...

IF YOU SLEEP, I'LL TOSS YOU OUT.
...SLEEPY AFTER EATING...
か
ら
...WHY ARE YOU GRIN-NING?
HMM...
IT'S NICE MAKING DINNER AND EATING TOGETHER, ISN'T IT?

UNTIL NOW, I NEVER PLAYED ANY PART IN MAKING MEALS...
EVERYONE LENT THEIR POWERS...
EVEN IF IT WAS SMALL, I'M HAPPY THAT I WAS ABLE TO HELP...

IT'S BECAUSE I COULDN'T BEFORE...

HEY, LET GO OF HIM!
WAH!
OH!
LET'S DO IT AGAIN TOMOR-ROW!

ANOTHER MASS FAINTING INCI-DENT..
IS IT POS-SIBLE FOR HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE TO FAINT SIMULTANE-OUSLY?
THE NEWS DIDN'T COVER THE CAUSE OF THE SICK-NESS
AH, I SAW IT, LOOKS SCARY..

HEY, COUNT.
I WAS THINK-ING THAT THIS METHOD IS TOO HALF-HEARTED

IT'S NOT MY AIM TO CAUSE A COMMOTION.
DO SOMETHING MORE FLASHY! IT'S FASTER THAT WAY, RIGHT?
IT APPEARS THAT THERE ARE POWERS THAT ARE SUFFICIENT TO OPPOSE US.
SOON, I'LL NEED EVEN YOUR SUPPORT.
!!?
YOU JUST WANT TO ENJOY WHAT WOULD HAPPEN, RIGHT?
HEH.
CAN WE CHANGE THE SHAPE OF THIS WORLD? CAN WE ACCOMPLISH THAT?

THAT'S WHAT I'M INTERESTED IN.
I DON'T REALLY CARE HOW YOU DO IT.
I'M JUST HERE FOR THE RIDE.
COUNT OF ST. GERMAIN.
THE MAN WITH THE TITLE OF COUNT, WHO HOLDS THE ABILITY TO CHANGE THE SHAPE OF THE WORLD.
TO BE CONTINUED.

NOW, SHALL WE GET STARTED?
THUMP
THIS MAN WILL CHANGE THE SHAPE OF THE WORLD.
AHH, BEFORE I FORGET, COUNT...
HAVE YOU STOPPED RIDING PLANES? YOU HAVEN'T RESERVED A SEAT YET.
SURELY, YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN BORED WITH VEHICLES?
IT'S JUST A HOBBY.

THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT

#4: *Shadows that walk alongside us*

Buscuit Hammer

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ギリ

GILLES, THE SIREN!
JOHN!
AH, EVERYONE'S GATHERED ALREADY!
EVERYONE'S HERE, RIGHT? OKAY, LET'S START THE BRIEFING!
YOU'RE LATE!
OW!

DARK WRAITHS HAVE APPEARED IN A PLACE IN THE FAR EAST.
WE'LL BEGIN THEIR EXTERMINATION AS PER USUAL. BUT...
THERE MAY BE AN APPEARANCE OF A "SPECIAL POWER HOLDER", A VARIANT
SINCE YOU TWO HAVE NEVER MET ONE BEFORE, PLEASE BE CAREFUL
VARIANT... HE MUST BE REFERRING TO THAT..!
アノボウ!
OK..!
UNDERSTOOD.

THIS TIME, WE'LL GO AS A 4-MAN TEAM.
SINCE THERE'S FOUR OF US, THE EXTERMINATION SHOULD PROCEED FASTER
IS EVERYONE UNDERSTOOD?

...RIGHT!

...OKAY.

IF THE "VARIANT" APPEARS,
I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING WITH MY "POWER"...

WE'LL BEAT THEM UP, AND GET OUR WISHES FULFILLED, OKAY?
EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE! WE'RE ALL TOGETHER!

LET'S GO!

THIS PLACE IS...
GROWL
GROWL

JOHN! THERE'S NO TIME FOR DAWDLING, YOU GOT IT!?
...I UNDER-STAND!

AHH!!

I... CAN FIGHT TOO...!
JACK!
GROWL

COME, MONSTER...
I'LL SLICE AND DICE EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU!

I WILL GET MY WISH FULFILLED
I WILL DE-STROY YOU ALL..!
THAT'S RIGHT
I WILL CREATE A KIND FAMILY.
I WANT A CARING FAMILY.
A LOVING FAMILY...!

ALL OF YOU, TO PIECES!!
THAT'S WHY I CARVE YOU TO PIECES!
STEP

STOMP

……!
JUST NOW, THAT WAS JACK'S POWER…!
SO, JACK IS ALSO AN UNDEAD WHO FIGHTS…!

チャッ…
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AND HE MANAGED TO CUT DOWN A LOT OF WRAITHS WITH HIS SWORD.. INCREDIBLE..
IN SUCH A SHORT TIME, HIS APPEARANCE CHANGED..!?
THERE'S NO END TO THEM, IS THERE..!
THEY'RE COMING NON-STOP..!

A VARI-
ANT..!?

!!
GILLES-DONO! EVERYONE!
GUH...!

I HAVE TO GET OVER THERE...!
CHEH, HOW CLEVER...!
.....
GILLES! JACK!
I HAVE AN IDEA
!

THEY'RE FALTERING! NOW!

HAAA !!
!!!

I DID IT...!
JOHN! YOU DID IT!
AH!
COMPARED TO YESTERDAY'S EVENTS... THIS IS NOTHING!

I'LL DEAL WITH THESE DARK WRAITHS FIRST...!
BUT FOR NOW...
THE REACTION OF THESE VARIANTS IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE...

ARE WE DONE...?
BUT IT'S WEIRD... THE ATMOSPHERE IS STILL DARK.
IT USUALLY BRIGHTENS UP WHEN WE'RE DONE...
---A SPLENDID DISPLAY...
FOR A GROUP OF UNDEAD.

!?

STEP
STEP

A CIVILIAN
...?!
...?!

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME TO SEE SUCH A DISPLAY.
THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO WATCH YOUR FIGHT.

EVERYONE ELSE HAS COLLAPSED BUT HOW IS THIS PERSON STILL FINE...!?
...NO...
SNAP
---I HAVE MANY NAMES, BUT...
...WHO ARE YOU!? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
I AM MOST WIDELY KNOWN AS THE COUNT OF ST. GERMAIN

!?
...WHAT...?
I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF BEING FRIENDS WITH KING RICHARD.
IN FACT, JOHN-SAMA AND I HAVE MET BEFORE. WHEN HE WAS STILL VERY YOUNG
THERE ARE EVENTS IN THIS WORLD THAT ARE BEYOND HUMAN COMPREHENSION
ARE YOU IMPLYING THAT YOU'VE BEEN ALIVE FOR CLOSE TO A THOUSAND YEARS...? IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHAT YOU'RE SAYING DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

YOU PEOPLE WHO ARE CORPSES THAT CAN MOVE ABOUT.
BEASTS THAT EAT SOULS.
AREN'T THESE PROOFS ENOUGH?
...IN OTHER WORDS...
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO COMMANDS THESE MONSTERS, THE MASTERMIND... IS THAT CORRECT?
I'LL GIVE 60 POINTS FOR THAT INTERPRETATION, BUT...
YOU'RE NOT WRONG.
...THEN YOU'RE OUR REAL ENEMY, RIGHT?

WAIT..!
DON'T GET IN OUR WAY!

!!
JACK!
I WAS WONDERING WHETHER I CAN TEST THE ABILITIES OF THE UNDEAD.
WHY DON'T WE HAVE A BOUT?
I'M QUITE FREE AT THE MOMENT

AH... BUT JUST FIGHTING WOULD BE BORING, RIGHT?
LET'S DO THIS.
IF YOU MANAGE TO INJURE ME, I'LL TELL YOU A SECRET.
HOW ABOUT IT?
SHALL WE BET ON IT?
WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JOHN AND THE COUNT...?
...!
TO BE CONTINUED
12/4

YOU HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS FOR ME, DON'T YOU?
I DON'T THINK THAT IT'S NOT A BAD DEAL
---IF YOU MANAGE TO INJURE ME EVEN ONCE, I'LL TELL YOU A SECRET
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING...?
FOR EXAMPLE,
MY OBJECTIVE
WHAT IS THE COUNT'S TRUE INTENTION?
...!

THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT.
The question itself, pierces through.
#5: The devotion of the Count and his performance
FUN AND GAMES

WHAT DO YOU STAND TO GAIN FROM DOING THIS?
...I DON'T UNDERSTAND
ARE YOU BUYING TIME FOR SOMETHING? ----OR IS IT THAT...
INTENTIONALLY APPEARING IN FRONT OF THE ENEMY...
I DON'T LIKE TRICKS OR FOUL PLAY... ALSO...
THIS IS SIMPLY A SERVICE I'M PROVIDING
THIS ISN'T A TRAP OF ANY KIND! YOU'RE BEING REALLY CAUTIOUS, AS EXPECTED OF A TRUE MILITARY MAN.

IF I WAS PLANNING TO DESTROY YOU,
I WOULDN'T NEED A TRAP TO DO IT.
...THIS GUY... WHAT IS HE THINKING...?
NOW, COME AT ME ANY TIME.

DO YOU THINK THAT WE WON'T BE A MATCH FOR YOU?
THE FACE HE'S PUTTING ON, IT'S GIVING OFF AN OMINOUS FEELING...
HIS TONE, FACIAL EXPRESSION AND GESTURES ALL SHOW GOOD WILL, BUT, AT THE SAME TIME...
HIS EYES ARE NOT SMILING ONE BIT.
ARE YOU SERIOUS ABOUT THIS, GILLES...!?
...YOU'RE UNDERESTIMATING US...!
WE CAN'T PASS UP THIS OPPORTUNITY
...LOOKS LIKE WE'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT
チャリ
...RIGHT...!

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I TAKE IT YOU ACCEPT THE BET? WELL THEN!
AS I THOUGHT, HE STOPPED MY ATTACK...! IN THAT CASE...
I'M NOT HERE TO PROVIDE AMUSEMENT FOR YOU!
I'LL ATTRACT HIS ATTENTION...
SO THAT KAWAKAMI AND JOHN CAN FIND A CHANCE TO ATTACK!
NO MATTER, HE'S A PERSON WITH ONLY TWO ARMS
I'LL ATTACK HIM FROM THE BACK
WHEN I DO SO, JOHN-DONO.
IS HIS POWER THE ABILITY TO FOLLOW A PERSON'S ATTACKS?
...!

SWOOSH
DID HE NOTICE...!? BUT IT'S TOO LATE.
BEFORE HE TURNS AROUND, MY BLADE WILL REACH HIM!
I'LL TAKE...
YOUR HEAD.!

WITHOUT LOOKING BEHIND HIM...
HE BLOCKED KAWAKAMI'S ATTACK...!?
...!?

AAAAA AAAAA AHH!!!!
JOHN! WILL HE MAKE IT..?!
IF HE MANAGES TO STOP MY BLADE.. HE WON'T BE ABLE TO BLOCK A THIRD ATTACK
JOHN-DONO WILL TAKE THAT OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK HIM.
I WON'T LET THE CHANCE THAT GILLES AND KAWAKAMI MADE GO TO WASTE..!!

BUT NOT GOOD ENOUGH.
YOUR COORDINATION JUST NOW WAS IMPRESSIVE
!?
HE STOPPED A KATANA FROM BEHIND... HIS REACTIONS ARE TOO QUICK...!
HE DODGED IT...!

GUH..!
OOPS
IF YOU DON'T ATTACK FASTER THAN THAT, YOU WON'T CATCH ME!

IAI THE JAPANESE MARTIAL ART OF QUICKLY DRAWING A KATANA, PERFORMING AN ATTACK AND THEN SHEATHING THE KATANA.

KA-CHING
I STILL HAVEN'T...
FOUGHT ...!!
DEYAA AAAH!
IT'S GOOD THAT A KID LIKE YOU SHOWS GUTS
BUT YOU NEED TO TRY HARDER

WHY... WHY CAN'T WE HIT HIM!?
HOW DOES HE DODGE ALL OF OUR ATTACKS?
EVEN WHEN WE AIM FOR HIS BACK, HOW CAN HE STILL DEFEND HIMSELF WITHOUT LOOKING!?
WE... WE WERE TRICKED.

IT'S LIKE ALL OF OUR ATTACKS...
ARE BEING PREDICTED.
DAMMIT, HE'S READING ALL OUR MOVEMENTS...?!
ARE YOU TIRED? GETTING FED UP WITH MISSING ALL THE TIME?
THAT'S TOO BAD...I'M STILL UNINJURED AND I'M NOT TIRED IN THE LEAST.

YOU TALK A LOT...
OTHERWISE, THIS FIGHT WILL BE TOO ONE-SIDED... WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO DO...?
MAYBE I SHOULD ADD ANOTHER HANDICAP.
YOU'RE GETTING ON MY NERVES ...!!
.. GILLES DE RAIS ALTHOUGH YOU WERE A CAUTIOUS PERSON, YOU DID NOT CARE WHETHER YOU HURT ANYONE, A RECKLESS PERSON.
HUMANS ARE SUCH CONTRADICTORY CREATURES, I LIKE THAT ABOUT THEM
BUT EVEN WITH THAT STRENGTH, YOU COULDN'T PROTECT HER

THAT'S WHY SHE BROKE.
YOU PATHETIC CREATURE.

GILLES ....!!

WAA
AAA
AHH!

WHAT... WHAT JUST HAPPENED!?
...CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?
WHY DO YOU FIGHT?
I FIND IT ABSURD
FORCIBLY DRAGGING FIGHTS OUT
SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU FIGHT FOR NO REASON.

スイ
THAT'S WHY I CAME TO MEET YOU

IT'S A MYSTERIOUS THING TO ME
I WANTED TO GAIN AN UNDERS-TANDING OF YOUR SIDE
HE'S COMING!

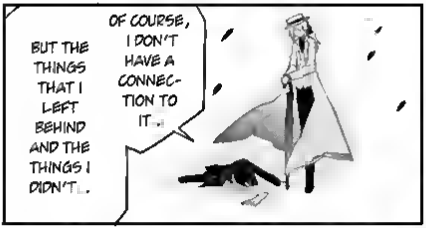
WHAT IS YOUR WISH?

YOU CARRY PAINFUL AND TERRIFYING MEMORIES WITHIN YOU, BUT
ARE THEY EQUAL TO YOUR WISHES?
GULP
IS PROTECTING PEOPLE OF AN UNKNOWN ERA
EQUAL COMPENSATION TO YOUR WISHES?
.....
--TIME AND SPACE ARE
MY CONSTANT COMPANIONS.

IF I'M NOT RIGHT ON THE MARK, PLEASE GUIDE ME
YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR COMPANIONS, RIGHT?
KAWA-KAMI...!
TAP
SO
WHY DO YOU FIGHT?

...YOU... DO YOU SET A VALUE TO PEOPLE'S WISHES?
YOUR WORDS AND BLADE HAVE NO EMOTION TO THEM.
HOSTILITY, HATRED AND SUCH... SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO THE BATTLEFIELD ...!
I JUST WANT TO KNOW.
WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO FIGHT?
I WANT TO RETURN TO MY OWN ERA.
I WANT TO RETURN TO MY HOME COUNTRY AND SEE THE FUTURE I LEFT BEHIND.

COUNTRY AND, THE FUTURE...


OF COURSE, I DON'T HAVE A CONNEC-TION TO IT...
BUT THE THINGS THAT I LEFT BEHIND AND THE THINGS I DIDN'T...

ENEMIES AND COMPANIONS... THE PEOPLE THAT ARE STILL ALIVE THAT I LEFT BEHIND... WHAT COUNTRY DID THEY MAKE?
I WANT TO KNOW...
I WANT TO EXPERIENCE IT WITH MY OWN EYES AND FEET.

...KAWAKAMI...

.....
...IS THAT ENOUGH?
COUNT?
...IN THE FIRST PLACE, THERE ISN'T ANYTHING WE COULD USE TO BALANCE OUR WISHES
GILLES...!
WE ARE UNDEAD.
WE HAVE LOST EVERYTHING EXCEPT OUR WISHES.

UGH.
I UNDERSTAND A BIT NOW.
...AHH, I SEE.
.....
...TCH.

SURE, IT MIGHT BE RIDICULOUS.
SURE, IT MAY NOT PAY OFF.
BUT... IT'S NOT A DIFFICULT THOUGHT.
WHEN I'M HERE...
I CAN BECOME STRONG...!

...!
I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO LEAVE ...!
YOU HAVE HURT PEOPLE WITHOUT ANY SIGN OF REMORSE...!
I THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE A COWARD... BUT IT SEEMS THAT YOU HAVE CHANGED A BIT, HAVEN'T YOU? JOHN THE LACKLAND
I WAS TAKING IT EASY AND SIMPLY KILLING TIME BUT
TO MAKE EYES LIKE THAT...
I SUPPOSE THAT THAT'S A GOOD ENOUGH RESULT

THEN, I'LL ASK YOU ONE MORE THING.
WHAT...!?
I'LL GIVE YOU 10 DAYS. I'LL COME VISIT YOU TO HEAR YOUR ANSWERS
"CAN WISHES CHANGE THE WORLD?"

---TCH, WAIT...!!
SOON.
---LET'S MEET AGAIN.
..COMPLETE DEFEAT, HUH?

WE PUT EVERYTHING WE HAD INTO ATTACKING HIM, BUT IT WAS ALL FOR NAUGHT.
WE WERE CAREFUL AND YET... WE COULDN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO HIS POWER.
HE WAS TERRIFYING...
HE COULD PERCEIVE A FEW SECONDS INTO THE FUTURE.
JACK...
UNPARA-LLELED SPEED AND UNMATCHED DEFENSES...
IT'S FRUSTRATING BUT WE WERE NO MATCH FOR HIM.
...I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

CLENCH
TIME LIMIT OF 10 DAYS... WHAT WILL THEY DO...?
TO BE CONTINUED

AFTER EXPERIENCING A FIGHT WITH THE COUNT
CLENCH
...I...
COULDN'T DO ANY-THING...

THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT

#6: There's only one way to do it.

Still Flatline

--- I'LL GIVE YOU 10 DAYS.
I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING YOUR ANSWERS.
BUT...
WHEN THE TIME COMES, I DON'T THINK I CAN DO ANYTHING .
10 DAYS... ONLY 10 DAYS.
THAT'S WHAT THE COUNT SAID.
I CAN'T SIT AROUND DOING NOTHING!
I CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT...!

I JUST HAVE TO DO THE THINGS I CAN AT THE MOMENT!
WILL HE GET ANGRY IF I VISIT HIM OUT OF THE BLUE...?
I WONDER IF GILLES IS IN HIS ROOM.
ガチャ
ビクッ
!

GILLES...!
...WHAT A GHASTLY FACE
IS HE DEPRESSED OR SOMETHING..?
AHH, UMM...
YOU CAN'T GO OUT. IT'S DANGEROUS.
...AHH... IT'S YOU, JOHN...
I WANT TO DISCUSS SOMETHING WITH YOU...

...ALREADY BECAUSE I WASN'T POWERFUL ENOUGH, I LOST EVERYTHING.
IF I DON'T, I CAN'T PROTECT ANYONE
I WANT TO GET STRONGER ...
WHEN THE COUNT COMES, HE'LL DEFINITELY NOT GO EASY ON US.

WAAH! PLEASE WAIT!
CLOSE

THAT'S WHY
THAT'S WHY... TOGETHER...!

SIGH
PLEASE LET ME SAY ALL I CAME TO SAY!
YOU'RE NOISY! LET GO OF THE DOOR!
CAN'T YOU DO IT BY YOURSELF?
BUT..!
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU, GILLES...! I..!
CLOSE DOOR
I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO ANYONE RIGHT NOW
YOU'RE STUBBORN, YOU KNOW THAT!
PLEASE STOP IT..!

WE CAN'T DELAY ANY LONGER
WE HAVE TO TALK NOW
...WHAT'S UP WITH YOU... AND THOSE EYES
...I SAID IT ALREADY...

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW ME HOW COULD YOU PUT YOUR TRUST IN ME...!!
BUT!
BUT
THE GILLES IN FRONT OF ME RIGHT NOW IS THE ONLY PERSON I KNOW!
THE "GILLES RIGHT NOW" IS THE GILLES I KNOW!

THE GILLES RIGHT NOW IS EVERY-THING...!
YOU BLOCK-HEAD!
WHY ARE YOU SHUTTING YOURSELF AWAY!?
IF SOMETHING HAPPENED A LONG TIME AGO AND YOU DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT, THEN THAT'S FINE!
BUT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAVED ME, GILLES!
YOU FOUGHT BESIDE ME! THAT'S NOT A LIE...!
I THOUGHT THAT GILLES WAS A COMRADE...! JACK AND KAWAKAMI TOO...
IN THIS WORLD RIGHT NOW... AREN'T WE ALL COMRADES...!?

WHY...
WHY ARE YOU..?
WHY AFTER ALL THIS TIME... DO YOU APPEAR NOW...?
.....!

IT'S LIKE THERE'S A LIGHT IN MY HEART.
IT HURTS..!
EVEN THOUGH I USED TO HATE PEOPLE...
HATING OTHERS... BEING HATED..
I CAN'T DO EITHER PROPERLY...
. GILLES...
THIS LIGHT INSIDE ME... I DON'T NEED IT...

BUT.
I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT HOW YOU MIGHT FEEL...
I PROBABLY SAID TOO MUCH
...I'M SORRY. I RANTED OFF.
IT WASN'T A LIE.
I WOULDN'T LIE ABOUT THESE THINGS...
.....
...CAN I SHOW HIM THE "NOW" ME?

...IN THAT CASE...
OWW!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, FEELING DOWN LIKE THAT!?
GAH
I'M ASHAMED THAT I FELL INTO SUCH A PITIFUL STATE...
しゅん...
.....
I ROUGHLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU CAME HERE FOR
...YOU SAID YOU WANTED SOME TRAINING, RIGHT?

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……！
THAT'S FINE WITH ME.
I'LL GO THROUGH IT. UNTIL THE END.
むぎゅ
BUT FROM NOW ON, TRAINING WILL BE EXTRA TOUGH!
...VERY WELL.

YOU CHANGE YOUR STANCE TOO SLOWLY!
COME AT ME WITH THE INTENT TO KILL!
YOUR FLANK IS POORLY PROTECTED! YOUR CENTER OF GRAVITY IS TOO HIGH! WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU GET DISARMED!?
GUH...

SO USING A PRACTICE SWORD IS...?
COME AND SLASH ME!
THIS IS PROPER TRAINING SO DON'T SHOW ANY MERCY!
DON'T HOLD BACK ON MY ACCOUNT!
WILL HESITATING MAKE YOU STRONGER?
THAT HESITATION WILL GET YOU KILLED!
THAT HURTS!!
...ALL RIGHT...!
...!
...IT'S THE NORMAL GILLES...!

HEY KAMII!
. LOOKS LIKE SWORD PRACTICE.
!
GILLES! JOHN!
JACK! KAWAKAMI TOO!
LET US PRACTICE TOO!
WE'LL GET RUSTY IF WE DON'T!

I WON'T ALLOW IT, JACK! WE'RE NOT PLAYING AROUND.
EHHH!!
WHY DON'T WE ALL PRACTICE TOGETHER?
...ISN'T IT FINE TO LET HIM JOIN? BEING LEFT OUT ISN'T NICE
7°
わー
YAY! THANKS, JOHN!
ズガガガガガ
UWAA!!
!!

きゃー
わー
IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR LUNCH
YOU THREE MUST BE HUNGRY
EHH? KAWAKAMI'S NOT HERE
OIII
ぱっか

BIG HUG
THANKS A LOT!!
WOOOOOOOOOW!
IT'S DELICIOUS!

WE'LL WIN THIS TIME.
...WITH EVERYONE.
YUP!
--I'VE PINPOINTED THEIR LOCATION.
THEY'RE USING QUITE A CLEVER CAMOUFLAGE, AREN'T THEY?

EVEN A SATELLITE COULDN'T TAKE A PICTURE.
...SO, WHAT WILL YOU DO? ARE YOU GOING TO SEE THEM?
I'M PLANNING ON DOING THAT.
THE SPROUTING OF "POSSIBILITY"... I HAVE AN INTEREST IN THEM.
AT LEAST... I THINK THEY HAVE POTENTIAL
YOU LIKE THINGS TOO MUCH... AS FOR ME, I PREFER EXPLOSIONS.
YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A DICTATOR, AREN'T YOU, GREGORY?
WHAT?!
IF THEY ARE KILLED BY ME...
----THE PEOPLE'S FUTURE WILL DISAPPEAR.
AS YOU WISH... COUNT.

. IT'S THE TENTH DAY

. A FLOWER ..?

!!
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THE COUNT ATTACKS...!
NEXT, THE FINAL CHAPTER.

TO BE CONTINUED.

STOP THINKING, STOP DREAMING...
STOP LOVING, STOP HATING...
STEP
STEP
STEP
An unavoidable fight with the Count---
GOOD NIGHT,
SWEET PRINCE

Everything I do is for my "wish".
Last Number: And so, the Criminal is...
ALL THAT I NEEDED(WAS...)
THE REASON CRIMINALS ON THE OTHER SIDE FIGHT

THE CASTLE WALLS HAVE BEEN...! THE COUNT HAS ARRIVED!
I HAVE TO HURRY AND MEET UP WITH THE OTHERS..!
JOHN!
GILLES!
THE COUNT HAS...!
I KNOW.

JOHN.
NO MATTER WHAT HAP-PENS...
DON'T EVER STOP FIGHTING
DON'T STOP, DON'T HESITATE...
...NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS... PLEASE...
...PLEASE PROTECT EVERYONE

..PLEASE.
トン
...EH...? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, GILLES...?
GILLES! JOHN!
GIL...
JACK! KAWAKA-MI...

LOOKS LIKE HE CAUGHT US BY SURPRISE.
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FACE HIM HEAD-ON.
THEREFORE, WE HAVE TO FIGHT HIM FOUR-ON-ONE...
YES, I AGREE.
HE... HE CAN SEE SHORT GLIMPSES OF THE FUTURE, RIGHT...
...THERE'S NO OTHER WAY, HUH...
EVERYONE'S SHOWING SIGNS OF HESITATION
BUT, WE HAVE TO FIGHT
WE HAVE TO BELIEVE IN OUR OWN POWER
JACK...

---I HAVE A PLAN.
...JACK...
THIS ISN'T THE END.
WAVE
A PLAN...!? WHAT IS.
---IT'S MY FINAL TRUMP CARD.
I NEVER USED IT TO COMPLE-TION, BUT I BELIEVE IT'S UNBEAT-ABLE.

IT'S NOT SOMETHING...
LIFE-THREATENING, RIGHT...?
...FINAL TRUMP CARD...?
I FEEL UNEASY... WHAT COULD GILLES'S TRUMP CARD BE...?
GILLES...
.....
THERE'S EVEN A MINIATURE GARDEN HERE...
THIS PLACE HAS SUCH A NICE FEEL TO IT.

!!

THE WALL HAS..!!
..HAVE YOU FOUND AN ANSWER TO MY QUESTION?

..COUNT...!
AS I PROMISED...
I'M HERE TO LISTEN TO YOUR ANSWER...
"CAN WISHES...
...CHANGE THE WORLD?"
..IS THAT QUESTION REALLY SO IMPORTANT?
I THINK YOU'RE JUST USING IT AS AN EXCUSE

YOUR LIVES HAVE NO MEANING, AM I RIGHT?
FROM THE BEGINNING, THERE IS NO RIGHT ANSWER.
OH REALLY... WELL THAT'S TOO BAD...
FROM WHAT I SEE, THIS CASTLE HAS A GARDEN
...THE ONLY OUTSIDE WORLD FOR YOU IS THE UNDERWORLD, RIGHT?
...HOWEVER, YOU ARE AN OBSTACLE TO "US".
WHETHER YOU HAVE AN ANSWER OR NOT...I HAVE A REASON TO DISPATCH ALL OF YOU

I DON'T WANT TO DIE IN THIS CASTLE...!
WE WILL...
DEFEAT YOU RIGHT HERE AND NOW!
YOU'RE WELCOME TO TRY!

SNAP
KAWA-
KAMI!

DAMN HIM...!
AHHHH !!!
PLEASE HIT!!

STEP
SNAP

I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO CONTINUE
YOUR ATTACKS ARE ANNOYING, KING JOHN
...AH!
JOHN!!

HERE COMES HIS COUNTER ! GOTTA DODGE...
ガ
チン
....
!!

JACK!

GUH...!!
HE'S.. REALLY STRONG..!
I DON'T LIKE TO PRO-LONG THIS SENSELESS SUFFERING
YOU'RE POWERLESS TO STOP ME WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP?

.....
ARE WE POWERLESS TO STOP HIM..!?
HIS PHYSICAL PROWESS IS WAY ABOVE OURS !
I CAN PROBABLY ONLY USE IT ONCE.
MY LAST TRUMP CARD.
WHAT'S WITH YOU... SHOWING US SUCH CONSIDER-ATION...!?
IT'S BETTER FOR YOU TO STAY DOWN.
I DON'T WANT TO COMMIT THESE CRUEL ACTS.

IT'S THE FACT OF THE WORLD THAT PEOPLE WANT TO BE RULED, BUT...
THAT IS JUST A SMALL EXAMPLE OF THE WORLD AT LARGE.
THE ERA IN WHICH YOU LIVED IN WON'T CHANGE THE COMPOSITION OF THE WORLD
HUMAN HISTORY IS FULL OF BLOOD AND SIN.
ALL PERIODS OF HISTORY CANNOT ESCAPE IT.
...I PLAN TO GIVE YOU ALL A PROPER HUMAN BURIAL THOUGH.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT WITH THAT?
.....
A SINFUL... HISTORY...

UGH-!!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SINFUL... EVEN THOUGH IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
EVEN SO. !!
...YOU'RE RIGHT
LET'S SEE THIS TO THE END... EVEN I AM WEIGHED DOWN BY SIN...

GILLES-DONO ...!?
GILLES...!?
JOHN..
KAWAKAMI, JACK..
COULD YOU ALL TAKE PART IN MY PLAN?
...OH.
ONCE WE HAVE AN OPENING, THEN I'LL..
WHEN I RUN TOWARDS HIM, ALL OF YOU ATTACK SIMULTANEOUSLY.

WHY ARE YOU PUTTING UP THAT FACE?
WASN'T IT YOU WHO SAID "TOGETHER"?

GILLES...

WE'RE GOING TO
TO HAVE TO RISK OUR LIVES
IT'S UNLIKELY THAT WE'LL GET OUT OF THIS UNSCATHED

...GILLES.

GILLES LET'S DO THIS
. IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP...
VERY WELL, COME AT ME
I'LL DEFEAT EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU!

……？
ルッ！

IT'S NOT... AN ATTACK...!?
AN OPENING!!
NOW!!

SWEEP

AAAHH
HHH!!!

IT REACHED ...!
CON-GRATS!

GUAHH
..!!

JOHN-DONO! JACK!
LOOKS LIKE I DIDN'T PUT ENOUGH POWER INTO THAT ATTACK... HAVING SAID THAT, YOUR ATTEMPT WAS DECENT.
OH DEAR... I PLANNED TO CHOP YOUR LEGS OFF...
GILLES...
THE DIFFERENCE IN POWER IS STILL TOO BIG...!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE... ALL WE COULD DO WAS GIVE HIM THAT LITTLE CUT.
GILLES...!
---WELL DONE, EVERYONE!

IF YOU COULD DO THAT, THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY MEANING IN THE CONVERSATION YOU HAD WITH THEM.
IT'S NOT THAT YOU COULD INSTANTLY READ THEIR ACTIONS' INTENT.

GILLES...!

...I'M GLAD THAT YOU READ MY ATTACK
YOU REALLY READ THE FUTURE AS MUCH AS YOU COULD...

...NEXT WAS THE GAMBLE ON HOW FAR INTO THE FUTURE YOU COULD READ...

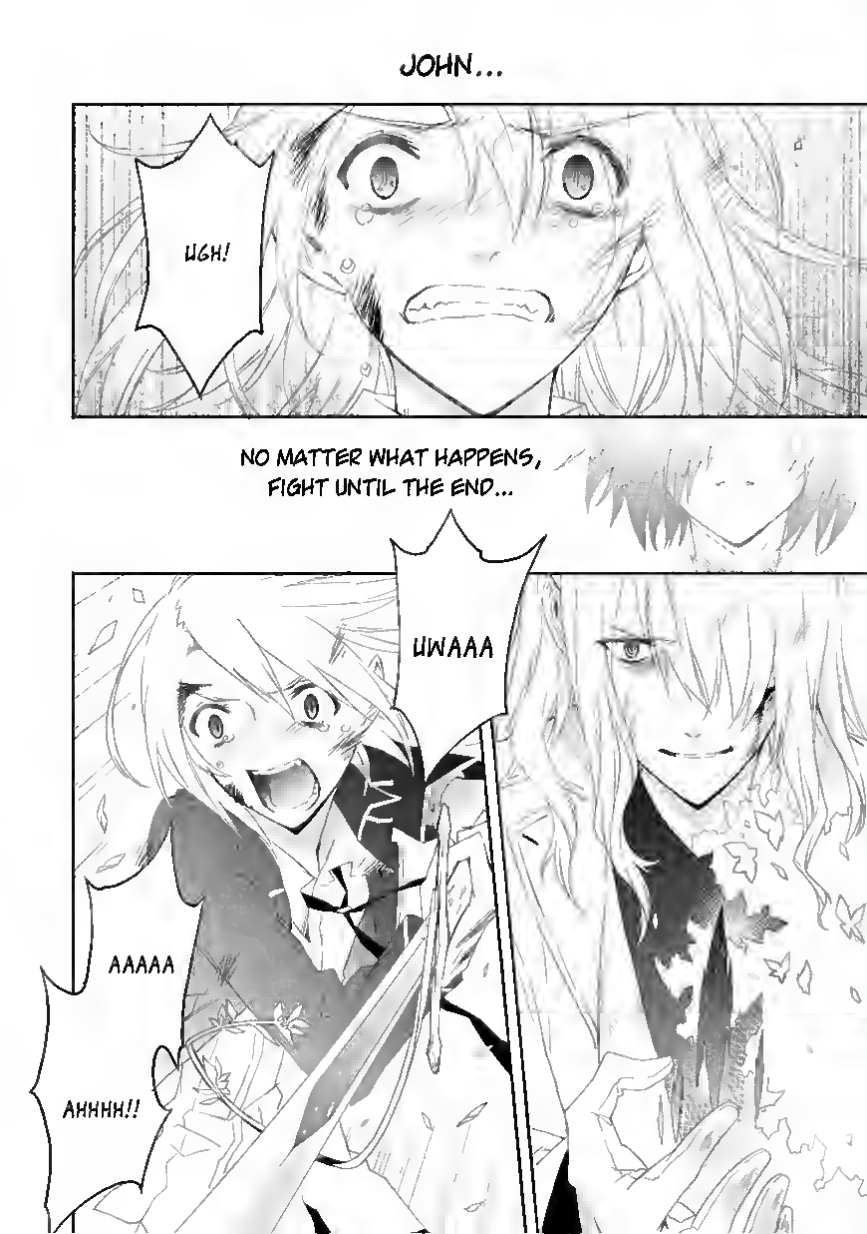
IT LOOKS LIKE I WON THE GAMBLE ...!
CRACKLE
...AH.
I WAS OUTWITTED.
THE FUTURE IS REALLY UNPREDICT-ABLE... CONGRATU-LATIONS.
I'M ACTUALLY A BIT HAPPY RIGHT NOW
.GILLES ..?
WHAT ARE .. YOU SAYING ..?

YOUR TRICKS WON'T WORK TWICE... YOU'RE ALL OUT OF OPTIONS NOW.
ARE YOU ALRIGHT WITH SUCH AN END? DO YOU THINK YOUR NEXT ATTACK CAN KILL ME?
IF I DON'T USE MY MAXIMUM POWER, I WON'T BE ABLE TO DEFEAT YOU!
---I'VE ALREADY DECIDED!
GILLES... WHAT ARE... WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
!?

HE COULDN'T BE...
KILLING THE COUNT IN A SUICIDE ATTACK...!?
---THIS IS WHERE...
YOU AND I PERISH...!
!!
GILLES!! YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THAT FAR!!
JOHN-DONO...!!
PLEASE STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING!! WE CAN DO IT TOGETHER...

DIDN'T YOU SAY WE'LL FIGHT TOGETHER!! DON'T YOU HAVE A WISH?!
DON'T DO IT!!
GILLES!!
GILLES ...!?
...!
IF IT WAS POSSIBLE, I WANTED TO SEE EVERYTHING THROUGH TILL THE END.

THERE IS SALVATION...
EVERYONE.


JOHN...
UGH!
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS,
FIGHT UNTIL THE END...
UWAAA
AAAAA
AHHHH!!

...KING JOHN.

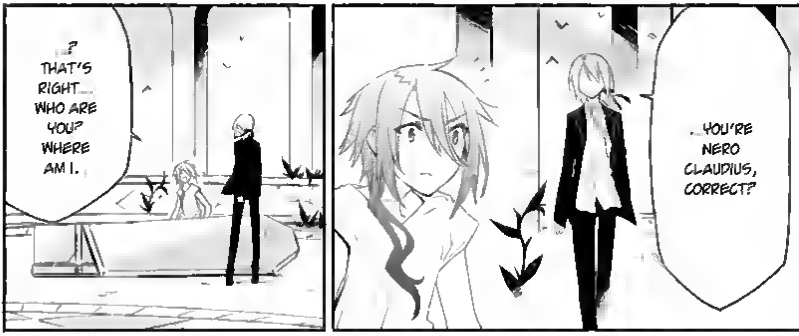
...YOUR FIGHT STARTS... FROM NOW ON.
ENQUIRE... QUESTION...
DOES YOUR WISH HAVE THE POWER... TO CHANGE THE WORLD...?

GILLES!!
..GILLES
...!?
...I...
WE DID
IT...
PLEASE
OPEN YOUR
EYES...
PLEASE
WAKE UP...
HIS
HAND.
DON'T
LEAVE
US
LIKE
THIS
IS
COLD..

I HAVE A LOT MORE THINGS... TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT.
EVEN THOUGH YOU PROTECTED US...
YOU DIDN'T NEED TO GO AT IT ALONE...
WHY... WHY DID YOU DO IT ALONE...!
YOU ACTED ON YOUR OWN... AND YOU LEFT US BEHIND...! GILLES...!
GILLES...
AH...
AH...!

VERY WELL, COUNT. I'LL GO ALONG WITH YOUR WISHES.
AFTER ALL, I HAVE PLENTY OF TIME.
EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T LIKE HUMANS AT ALL---.
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT YOU LIKE THEIR CIVILIZATION, RIGHT?
CREAK

AND SO, THE CRIMINALS...

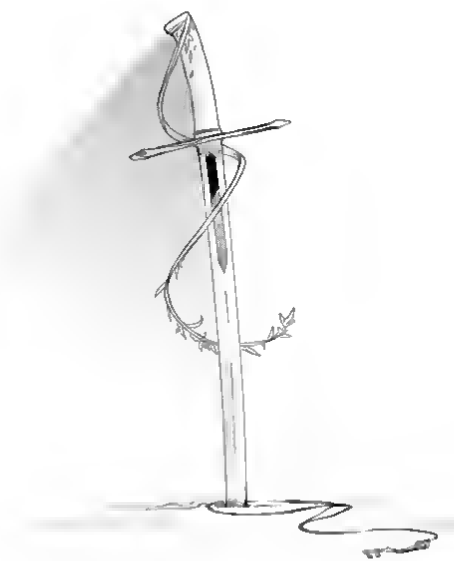


CONTINUE THE FIGHT.

!
NERO, DO YOU HAVE A WISH? AN UNFULFILLED WISH?
...OH.
YES, I DO!
---THEN, FIGHT
YOU ARE A RESURRECTED HUMAN BEING.
IN THIS 21ST CENTURY, FIGHT FOR THE WORLD.
FIGHT TO FULFILL YOUR WISH
WE ARE NOT ALONE.
WE HAVE OTHER PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN RESURRECTED... TOGETHER, WE ARE ONE.

BELL CHIME
---LET'S GO...
TOGETHER!

TO FULFILL YOUR SOUL
AND YOUR WISH



VIVA LA VIDA!

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR READING. PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO TSURUMI-SENSEI'S NEXT WORK!

THE END